

Message Text

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43

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 INT-08 IO-13 COME-00

TRSE-00 L-03 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /094 W
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R 051101Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7059

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 3266

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS OCON XN PFOR US NO

SUBJECT: FISHERIES: ICNAF

REF: (A) OSLO 3155; (B) STATE 167508

1. ECONOMIC OFFICER FOLLOWED UP APPROACH TO UNDER SECRETARY SVENNEVIG IN FOREIGN MINISTRY REPORTED REFTEL A WITH DETAILED DISCUSSIONS (1) IN FISHERIES MINISTRY WITH UNDER SECRETARY BJORGE AND INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES EXPERT KJELL RASSOK AND (2) IN FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH LOS EXPERT AMBASSADOR JENS EVENSEN.

2. BJORGE, THOUGH LARGELY UNFAMILIAR WITH ISSUE, WAS GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC TO US POSITION. RASSOK SAID THAT IF SCIENTISTS IN ICNAF ARE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE US POSITION NORWAY WILL GO ALONG WITH AN OVERALL QUOTA WHICH WOULD BE LESS THAN THE SUM OF INDIVIDUAL SPECIES' QUOTAS AND WOULD PROVIDE REDUCTION IN THE OVERALL FISH CATCH IN SA-5 AND SA-6. HE QUESTIONED, HOWEVER, WHETHER AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED IN OTTAWA ON SPECIFIC CONTROL MEASURES TO LIMIT THE OVERALL CATCH AND POINTED OUT THAT THE US
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PROPOSALS IN ICNAF COMM. DOC. 73/18 WERE STILL UNDER STUDY

AND THAT THE TECHNICAL EXPERT COMMITTEE HAS NOT REACHED AGREEMENT OR COMPLETED ITS WORK IN THIS AREA. IN ADDITION THE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN COPENHAGEN ON ENFORCEMENT HAS NOT REPORTED YET. THEREFORE, QUESTIONS OF SPECIFIC CONTROLS AND ENFORCEMENT PROBABLY HAVE TO BE CARRIED FORWARD TO THE ICNAF MEETING IN ROME IN JANUARY. ON EAST GERMANY RASSOK AGREED THAT GDR PARTICIPATION WAS DESIRABLE, BUT WONDERED HOW IT WOULD BE ACHIEVED. RASSOK ALSO MENTIONED DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS NORWAY WAS HAVING WITH THE COD QUOTA OFF GREENLAND AND THE FAROE ISLANDS AND SAID NORWAY HAD NOT DECIDED WHETHER OR NOT TO PROTEST THE QUOTA. (EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING BACKGROUND MATERIAL ON THIS QUESTION.) RASSOK ALSO SAID THAT NORWAY WAS OPPOSED TO ANY REDUCTION IN OVERALL QUOTAS OR SPECIES QUOTAS FOR SA 1,2,3 AND 4 AND WAS CONCERNED THAT REDUCTIONS IN SA 5 AND 6 MIGHT SET A PRECEDENT FOR FISHING IN SA 1,2,3, AND 4.

3. EVENSEN TOOK CAREFUL NOTES DURING ECONOMIC OFFICER'S PRESENTATION. HE AGREED WITH THE IMPORTANCE OF A SOLUTION TO FISHERIES PROBLEMS IN AREAS SUCH AS SA-5 AND SA-6 WHICH WOULD SUPPLEMENT AND COMPLEMENT EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON FISHING IN COASTAL WATERS IN THE FORTHCOMING LOS CONFERENCE. HE SAID HE WOULD PREPARE A MEMO ON THE ISSUE FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTER, RECOMMENDING THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE FORMULATION OF NORWEGIAN POLICY IN THIS AREA. HE PROMISED TO REPORT ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S REACTION AND ASKED TO BE KEPT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS. BUCHANAN

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